

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



DOC TALK....

IN THIS ISSUE: National Correctional Employees Week



CELEBRATION OF VICTIM'S RIGHTS

The Office of Victim Services of the Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC) hosted a ceremony in celebration of Crime Victims Rights Week, April 7 thru April 11, 2003.

The ceremony was held on Monday, April 7th in the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Legislative Committee Room in the Cross State Office Building in Augusta.

The Agenda included an opening address by Denise Giles, MDOC Victim Services Coordinator, a Proclamation from the Governor's Office designating April 6 through April 12, 2003 as Crime Victim's Rights week in Maine, presented by Denise Lord, Associate Commissioner of the MDOC, remarks from Steven Rowe, Maine Attorney General, and an announcement and presentation of the awards to the parents of the children who won the MDOC Coloring/Essay Contest.

The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of four wooden silhouettes that were constructed by an inmate work crew at the Charleston Correctional Facility to representatives of the Silent Witness Project and the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence. The Silent Witness Project creates silhouettes of the women who have been killed as a result of domestic violence. Each silhouette bears a shield that has the women's name, age, and vital information concerning the person and the crime. The silhouettes are displayed whenever and wherever people meet to address the problem of domestic violence within the community. The mission of the National Silent Witness Initiative is to promote peace, healing, and responsibility in adult relationships in order to eliminate domestic murders in the U.S. by the year 2010. The Initiative uses the recent changes in society's perception of drunk driving and smoking as an example of how, through hard work and education, the problem of domestic violence in America can be solved. As Attorney General, Stephen Rowe stated in his presentation "He looks forward to the day when no more silhouettes, representing the murdered victims of domestic violence, will need to be made.



For more information on the Victim Services of the MDOC, contact Denise Giles at 287-4385.

Left to Right: Susan Fuller and Wendell Linscotte of the Silent Witness Project, Steve Berry, Director of the Charleston Correctional Facility, George Bunker, House Chair of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, Stephen Rowe, State Attorney General, Tom Sands, Wood Products Supervisor (CCF), Ethan Strimling, Senate Chair of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee.

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COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

April is National Volunteer Month and the week of April 27 – May 3, 2003 is National Volunteer Recognition Week. During April and May, we recognize those individuals who make it happen in corrections. I would like to recognize and express my personal thanks to each individual that volunteers his/her time and efforts to help the people that are incarcerated in the Department's juvenile and adult correctional facilities. The services that you provide, in the areas of religious, mentoring, substance abuse, education, recreational, and other programs, help the offenders cope with the challenges of incarceration and reentry back into the community.

May 4 – 9, 2003 is also National Correctional Employees Week.

The State of Maine had the third fastest growing adult prisoner population in the country for 2002. The State had one of the top five fastest growing adult probation caseloads in 2002. The Juvenile facilities are experiencing over capacity growth.

The Department has had to deal with these rapidly growing and more difficult populations and at the same time respond to a statewide budget crisis.

This has been tough on all of us, but we're still standing; in fact, we're starting to be nationally recognized for some of our accomplishments. Together, we will get through this. Our employees have done a great job under very difficult circumstances.

Thank you.

Martin A. Magnusson

Food for Thought

You must give some time to your fellow men. Even if it's a little thing, do something for others - something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.

Albert Schweitzer (1875 - 1965)

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CENTRAL OFFICE

15th Annual Maine Adult Correctional Education Conference

The Maine Adult Correctional Education Association (MACEA) hosted the 15th annual conference to be held this year on Thursday, May 15, 2003, at the John Martin Manor Restaurant in Waterville. This day-long conference enabled participants to attend workshops in areas of correctional education and other correctional related subjects. The conference was a forum to meet and connect with correctional educators, adult education teachers, State and County correctional facility staff, community corrections staff, and staff from collaborating agencies.

Conference Speakers were **John Wilson**, Restorative Justice & Victim Advocate and Magazine Editor and **Sylvia McCollum** from the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Following is the list of scheduled conference workshops that were related to correctional education in Maine:

- ◆ Educational Programs – GED Connection & Workplace Essential Skills
 - ◆ Career and Life Planning
 - ◆ Work Release – Skills Building Program
 - ◆ Integrating Poetry in Multimedia
 - ◆ Marti Stevens Interactive Improvisational Theater
 - ◆ Mandatory Education Programs in Corrections
 - ◆ Batterer's Intervention Program.



PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS WITHIN THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS MEASURING VOLUNTEER SERVICES

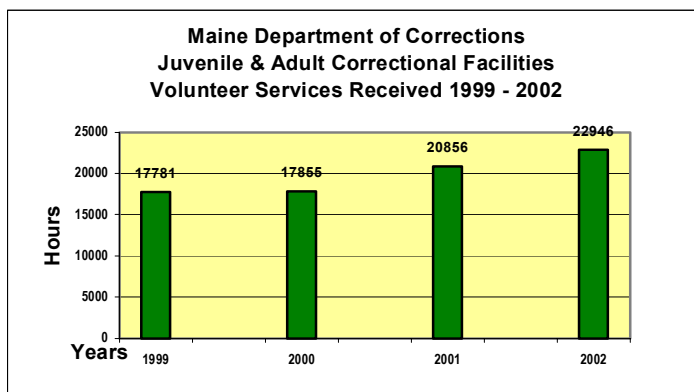
By Ellis King

The increase in Volunteer Service Hours is one measure for assessing the progress of the Maine Department of Correction (MDOC) in meeting the goals that are outlined in the Department's Strategic Plan. This measure specifically addresses Goal C: To ensure that offenders are accountable to both their victims and the communities in which they offend and that communities are full partners and share responsibility for how offenders are held accountable.

Volunteer Services includes any work or service that is performed for the MDOC by a person that is not employed by the MDOC. Examples of Volunteer Services are literacy volunteers, mentors, religious program providers, substance abuse program providers, and education service providers. If the volunteer receives any monetary benefit for his/her labor it is not considered volunteer services.

The total MDOC Volunteer Services performed for 1999 (Baseline Year) thru 2002 have been compiled, these figures include volunteer services performed in both juvenile and adult correctional facilities.

The financial value of these services is based on a hourly rate of \$10.00/hour which is a low estimate because professional services that are being provided by the volunteers would cost much more if the services had to be provided by MDOC staff or contracted services.



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The MDOC goal for the year 2002 was 229,416 hours or \$229,460.00 in volunteer service value which represented a 10 % increase of the 2001 yearly amount. **The 2002 goal was achieved and every volunteer that has contributed his/her time and efforts to help the Department's juvenile and adult clients should be proud of this accomplishment.**

The MDOC goal for the year 2003 is 25,240 hours or \$252,400 in volunteer service. This amount represents a 10 % increase of the 2002 yearly amount.

The services which are provided by volunteers that offer services to the MDOC can be contrasted to the Community Services (described in the last issue of the DOC TALK) that are provided to the communities by offenders that are incarcerated in the custody of the MDOC. The MDOC and the local communities of Maine have established a collaboration that exchanges services so that it results in a win-win situation for everyone involved in either the volunteer program or the community service program.

The State of Maine offers some excellent methods to either identify ways to volunteer his/her time and services, or for organizations to identify individuals who are willing to provide volunteer services. This first method is an Internet site for **SERVENET**, an organization which allows potential volunteers to enter in their zip code to generate a list of volunteer opportunities in their local community. It also provides organizations that are in need of volunteers to advertise and describe the types of volunteers and services that they need. The website address for SERVENET is <http://www.servenet.org/>

The second resource that is especially valuable to both correctional facilities and to the people that are considering volunteering in these facilities is an organization called **Volunteers in Prevention, Probation & Prisons, Inc.** This organization also has a website that provides information, articles, and connections related to volunteer services in correctional facilities and community corrections at <http://vipmentoring.org/>

The continuing goal of the MDOC Strategic Plan is to accomplish continual improvement. Each year the MDOC should increase the number of hours that are provided by volunteers to provide volunteer programs. Each adult and juvenile correctional facility has a volunteer coordinator to recruit, train, and schedule volunteers. Continual program evaluation and regular contacts with the volunteers ensures that the volunteers are being used effectively and that he/she is accomplishing their own goals and feel valued for the services that he/she is providing.

A special thanks to the volunteers that are contributing their time and expertise to provide the offenders with much needed services. And thanks to the individuals within the MDOC that are working with the volunteer programs and documenting the services for the performance measurement.

For additional information on volunteer services within the MDOC contact the Volunteer Coordinator at the correctional facility in which you are interested, or contact Ellis King in MDOC Central Office at 287-4342 or e-mail at Ellis.King@state.me.us



Heather Warren who worked as an Accounting Technician for the Central Office Finance Division has been promoted to an Insurance Company Examiner for the Department of Professional and Financial Regulations in Gardiner.

Congratulations Heather! You will be missed.



From the MDOC Archives

The archive photograph pictured in this article was taken at the Bolduc Correctional Farm which was part of the Maine State Prison at Thomaston in the late mid-60's and shows a part of the MDOC Civil Defense Program. The person in the suit is **Warden Robbins**, the unidentified Correctional Officer is in a BCF uniform and the other men are probably prisoners. The large object in the photo is a rubberized canvas portable water tank used for the fire trucks.

Inmates from the minimum security adult Correctional facilities under MDOC Staff Supervision may respond to assist in civil emergencies. Every year MDOC inmates assist in fighting the forest fires that threaten the homes and communities throughout the State.



This photograph was supplied by **Gary LaPlante** and information for the photograph was supplied by Captain **Milliard Rackliffe** at MSP. Thank you both for your contribution!

If anyone has any old MDOC photographs that they would like to submit to the **DOC TALK** to use for this section, please contact Ellis King at 287-4342. The photographs may be published but will certainly be returned to the sender.

ADULT EDUCATION LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION HALL OF FLAGS AUGUSTA

Let the voice of adult education be heard in the halls of the legislature!

Members of the Maine Adult Correctional Education Association (MACEA) participated in the legislative reception in the Hall of Flags on March 25, 2003 that was sponsored by the Maine Adult Education Association. The purpose of the MACEA display was to educate members of the legislature and their staff about the important work that is going on in the area of correctional education, both in the County and State correctional facilities. It was also an opportunity for the Correctional Educators to make that vital face-to-face connection with their area representatives. With so many new members of the legislature and with critical budget times ahead, it is more important than ever that the value of providing academic and vocational education to the States' incarcerated offenders be realized.



Left to Right: **Tom Reuwer**, Teacher at the Kennebec County Jail, **Bob Aubrey**, MACEA Director and Teacher at the Franklin County Jail, **Darrell Lee**, Computer Repair/Refurbishing Vocational Programs Instructor at the Maine Correctional Center, and **Kay Bouchard**, Teacher at the Maine Correctional Center.

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EEO TOPIC OF THE MONTH:

Information Technology

By Nat Hussey

Equal employment Opportunity Coordinator

Imagine that instead of working in buildings spread out across a rural state, all the world lived in one city and your workplace was at the center of this city. Right outside every window are all of the good and bad things communicated in the world - on signs, billboards, junk mail, store windows, posters, TV, radio, print media and so on.

Reality: Those office windows would be a lot like your computer screen.

Imagine also that your every conversation, e-mail, visit to a website or string of IM's using state equipment was public information, subject to disclosure, publication (!) and broadcast (!!).

Reality: Unless there is a specific legal privilege or protection, all of that information is available to the public and the media under Maine's Freedom of Access law.

The information age is a marvel of speed and volume, efficiency and enhanced communication. It also brings with it the potential for abuse and for rapidly multiplying errors of judgment. E-mail can reach many people very quickly, and once opened, cannot be taken back. It is easy to click the wrong name, but not so easy to "un-ring the bell."

We know that among all of the useful and informative content, there are also stupefying amounts of tasteless and offensive material constantly circulating in cyberspace, some of which come to roost in our mailboxes and pop up on our screens. Websites, e-mail, instant message systems and the content that goes with those things are not distant, but are part of our work environment.

We also know that all of the ways employees get harassed at work now have super-speedy counterparts in the electronic realm: jokes, cartoons, rumors, undermining, threatening, intimidating and other forms of harassment. This underscores the need to stay aware of different values, backgrounds and tolerance for electronic content in the workplace.

DOC is enacting a new policy on the use of information technology resources. The policy will cover everything from phone and fax to internet, instant message systems and electronic mail.

The policy contains 2 sections of importance in the area of harassment and discrimination.

1. Since equipment, time and work product are property of the state, and most information is public under Maine's Freedom of Access law, employees **do not have any reasonable expectation of privacy in e-mail, instant message communication or internet traffic. This activity may be monitored, copied, documented or stored at any time.**
2. "The use of State automation equipment to create, record, store, transmit, distribute, image, modify, print, download, or display inappropriate or unprofessional materials that demean, ridicule, or harass individuals or groups on the basis of race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, disability, sexual orientation, age, gender, and/or materials that are sexually oriented, sexually explicit or pornographic in nature, whether or not the material was intended to demean, ridicule or harass any employee or group of employees, is prohibited."

Violations of this policy can result in discipline, up to and including discharge. If you inadvertently access or transmit inappropriate material, either by email or the internet, your best protection is to immediately close the item and report the problem to your supervisor. Further, any electronic communication between outside parties and DOC employees is included within the terms of the policy and becomes public information absent some specific legal privilege. over

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The new policy will be provided to each employee, who must sign, indicating they understand it and are aware of disciplinary consequences for violations.

For further information or questions

The Department of Corrections EEO Coordinator is available to answer questions on harassment and discrimination issues, including the use of technology.

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DID YOU KNOW?

By Nat Hussey

The importation of slaves into the United States was actually outlawed in 1808, 57 years before the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution abolished slavery following the Civil War. It is estimated that 54,000 slaves were brought here illegally between 1808 and the end of the war in 1865.

In the affluent European nation of Liechtenstein, women did not receive the right to vote in national elections until 1984.

The Maine Human Rights Act granted civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities in 1975. It took the federal government a full 15 years to catch up with Maine. The Americans with Disabilities Act was passed by Congress and signed by President George H.W. Bush in 1990.

DID YOU KNOW? CONTINUED

By Ellis King

Intimate partner violence made up 22% of violent crime against women between 1993 and 1998. By contrast, during this period intimate partners committed 3% of the violence against men.

National Crime Victimization Survey, Bureau of Justice Statistics, May 2000

Approximately 1.5 million women are raped and/or physically assaulted by an intimate partner annually in the United States.

National Violence Against Women Survey, National Institute of Justice and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, July 2000

About 33% of female murder victims are killed by an intimate partner. About 4% of male murder victims are killed by an intimate partner.

Homicide Trends in the U.S., Bureau of Justice Statistics, January 2001

Adult and Juvenile Probation and Parole National Firearms Survey 2001 –2002 National Firearm Practices Throughout the United States –

Full report on website: <http://www.appa-net.org/information%20clearing%20house/firearmssurvey01/firearmssurvey.asp>

Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) is the largest crime victim assistance organization in the nation, MADD works on behalf of drunk driving victims/survivors 24 hours a day, seven days a week to help them cope with tragedy while navigating their court cases. MADD provides public education about MADD's victim services and how to combat drunk driving.

Youths who report alcohol or illicit drug use are more than twice as likely to think about or attempt suicide.

Center for Substance Abuse Research CESAR@cesar.umd.edu

Victim Services

CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK COLORING CONTEST

By Tessa Mosher

Department of Corrections had an outstanding group of entries for the Coloring Contest in celebration of Crime Victims Rights Week. The awards were announced on April 7 at the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee Room following the proclamation of Crime Victim's Rights week and the presentation of silhouettes that were constructed by the Charleston Correctional Facility for the Silent Witness Project.

The winners of the coloring contest are as follows:

Ages 3-5, First Place: 5 year old **Julia Ahearn**, daughter of **Lucretia Ahearn** at CO, Julia received an Adirondack chair donated by Maine State Prison and a singing bird donated by the Maine State Museum.

Ages 6-8, First Place: 6 year old **Elena Thomas**, daughter of **Mack Thomas**, Maine State Prison. She received a dollhouse bookcase donated by Downeast Correctional Facility. Second Place: 7 year old **Aubree Ahearn**, daughter of **Lucretia Ahearn** at CO. Aubree received a backpack donated by Downeast Correctional Facility with a \$10 gift certificate to Hannaford Brothers, and four tickets to the Children's Museum in Portland.

Ages 9-12, First Place: 10 year old **Lauren Breton**, daughter of **Jody Breton** at CO, Lauren received a jewelry box donated by Maine State Prison. Second Place: 11 year old **Leigh Gorey**, daughter of **Jeff** and **Rosalie Morin** at Mountain View Youth Development Center. Leigh received a backpack donated by Downeast Correctional Facility and five \$5 tickets to Jokers.

All of the entries were children of employees at Department of Corrections. Congratulations to all of you and thank you for participating in Crime Victims Rights Week.

RECERTIFICATION PROCESS OF BATTERER INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

By Jane Farmer

At this time of year notices are sent to the Batterer Intervention Programs to remind them they need to apply for recertification for the next two years. The process is fairly simple but sometimes can take awhile to be completed. The process starts when Victim Services sends a letter to notify the program that their recertification is due in 60 days. Included with the letter is an application and the certified assurances, all to be filled out, signed, and returned along with letters of working agreement from the Regional Correctional Administrator and the family violence project in the programs area. The programs then return all the paperwork with a \$100 fee. Once the paperwork is received by Victim Services the program is certified for another two years.

MCC WOMEN'S UNIT & THE IMPACT OF CRIME PROGRAM

By Jane Farmer

On March 20, 2003 Victim Services started their first Impact of Crime Program in the new Women's Unit at MCC. There were 30 applicants who wanted to attend the class which is open to a total of 20 participants. This is the largest class ever for the Impact of Crime Program.

The class is being co-facilitated by **Ellis King** and **Jane Farmer**, along with **Donna Berry** who recently completed the Impact of Crime facilitator training in New Hampshire. The women are doing a 12-week format, which includes an introduction, nine different modules of crime, a Victim Panel, and an evaluation.

The goals for the program are 1) to give victims a voice and 2) to promote empathy and accountability in offenders. So far, most of the women seem excited about the class and willing to consider what it takes to finish - listening, processing, putting themselves in the shoes of the victim, and finally taking responsibility for their actions.

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Community Resolution Teams Quarterly Updates- April 25, 2003

Due to the inability of people to attend the regularly scheduled quarterly meeting on April 25, the updates were provided to the teams electronically. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for July 17 from 10-12 on the 2nd floor, Room B in the Tyson Building.

MDI—In the last year MDI-RJP has been dealing with a dramatic decline in first time juvenile crime on Mt. Desert Island. During our first year '00-'01 we heard 18 cases involving all four towns on MDI. During the past year no cases have been deemed appropriate for us by police departments or the JCCO. The decline in juvenile crime here is reportedly consistent with state and national trends, though perhaps not this dramatically! Recognizing that this issue is cyclical in nature and future "spikes" are probably inevitable, our Board has redesigned our program to have two standing teams, each with about eight trained citizens. One would take cases from the east side of the Island, the other for the west side. Each would have designated case administrators, trained facilitators and community representatives. We will concentrate on cases where there is a victim, who hopefully will participate in the conference.

Volunteer commitment to the program remains strong, despite the drop-off in cases. We had no difficulty in getting 16 people to commit to the two teams. Five people attended the DOC Facilitator Training in March, despite the fact that most of them were conference veterans already. Other volunteers, who, because of the low incidence of cases, have not been active in RJP, have channeled their interests in juvenile justice to the prevention side through participation in the Greater MDI Communities for Children. In addition, we have recently been invited to participate with the MDI High School Hearing Committee in a conversation on restorative justice principles.

One other piece of news: our JCCO, Sherri Root, has left the area with her family for a move to Oregon. Renna Hegg, who will be our 4th JCCO since the inception of our program, replaces her.

BELFAST—The Waldo County Restorative Justice Committee is ready for action. We had our first public introduction to the concept of Restorative Justice on February 3, about 30 people attended. That was followed on March 1, by a morning workshop with about 15 people who wished to become active. From that group we created a steering committee and recruited half a dozen future facilitators who attended the March 29 training in Vassalboro. We now have a pool of about 20 interested community members available to serve in the various roles of a CRT.

Dick Snyder, Nan Stone, Will Galloway and Cathy Gilmer recently met with the Waldo County Criminal Justice Committee in Belfast. This group consisted of several police officers, a DA, JCCOs, a Sheriff, a public defender and a priest. This committee has been charged with researching alternative and effective processes for alleviating court dockets. It was a very constructive, bridge-building meeting. They were very receptive and together we started sketching out our next steps and the process that would interface our community group with their judicial processes. We meet again May 1.

HAMPDEN—Requests a facilitators training in Bangor in the near future.

FAIRFIELD—Fairfield update: we have a new facilitator trained. We had one referral that didn't work out, victim did not want to participate and wanted the juvenile to go to court. JCCO **Russ McMahon** called to say that he is still considering referrals to CRT, but has not had any that are appropriate.

BOOTHBAY HARBOR—No action to report over this way.

OOB—Suggested that the teams compare creative ideas for community service. Perhaps this would be a possible agenda topic if anyone is interested in suggesting some new ideas.

FARMINGTON—Referrals will come directly from the JCCO now rather than through the Farmington PD first. They have not had any referrals this year, have one scheduled this Wednesday.

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BRUNSWICK—Are ready to receive referrals, have two teams including Brunswick and Harpswell.

VICTIM SERVICES PRESENTATION

By Tessa Mosher

On April 1, 2003 at the Family Violence Project in Augusta **Tessa Mosher** attended a staff meeting to present information about the services offered by the Office of Victim Services at the Department of Corrections. At this presentation there were about 20 staff members and/or interns in attendance. Several topics were discussed:

Introductions of Office personnel (Denise, Coordinator, Tessa and Jane, Advocates)

Reason for presentation (survey results)

Restitution (Issuing checks, research, contacting DA's office's and/or courts and probation officers)

Notification request of a prisoner's release

Victim's Compensation

Referrals to other agencies (example, Abused women's group, Rape Crisis Center's, Counselor's, any referral that would need to be given)

Other duties (CRT's and BIP's)

There were questions regarding **how to request notification**, a form that can be filled out by the victim of the crime, (also victims of DV and PFA) which results in notification 30 days prior to release.

There was a question regarding the **applicable CRT cases**, which are for first time non-violent juvenile offenders as an alternative type of informal adjustment which gives the victim a say in the final outcome. There were questions regarding the CRT's and the **recidivism rate**, which is approximately 5% +/- and the victim satisfaction is 99%.



INCOME TAX RETURNS FOR RESTITUTION

Did you know that income tax returns can be attached to satisfy restitution obligations?

The probation officer can notify the State Tax Assessor, in writing, and supply the name address and social security number of the probationer owing restitution and the assessor shall set off the debt against any tax refund. There are probation officers who have already used this tool successfully. The taxation committee of the legislature recently passed a bill that would put restitution obligations immediately behind child support in the priority of claims. If you need any assistance with this process please call Victim Services at 800 968-6909.

MAINE STATE PRISON

MAINE STATE PRISON GREENHOUSE

Just recently the Maine State Prison put the finishing touches to its new greenhouse inside the new facility. Employees from the Bolduc Correctional Facility, as well as the employees at the Maine State Prison, worked hard at constructing the new building. This greenhouse will add much to the horticulture program that is being offered to the prisoners with support from the University of Maine Extension Service. At the present time, seeds are being planted and plans are being developed on how to beautify the inside walkways of the new facility. Before the old prison was closed, a story was done by the Downeast Magazine on the flowers that were grown inside the Thomaston facility. It is our plan to beautify the new facility by planting flowers and shrubs. An updated article will follow with photos when the flowers start blooming.

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BOLDUC CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

ADMINISTRATION

We are getting ready to gear up for the "Barbecue Season" here at our facility. As a means of melding our team members we have a monthly barbecue as a pot luck kind of lunch for all that want to participate. We try to include all shifts and areas. This is a good time by all and a good chance to get together in support of each other as well as our team Bolduc.

We wish to thank all the Military personnel that have been contributing to our Country. We appreciate all that you do and respect as well as admire the caliber of character it takes to get this tough job done. Thank you. Let freedom ring.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Our Maine State Prison Fire Department has recruited about two (2) dozen prisoners from our facility to participate in the current training program. We call our group the "Hot Shot Team". This program has been very successful in the years past partly due to the availability to travel basically anywhere in the State of Maine when needed. A special thanks to Fire Chief Paul Doughty for his on-going commitment to this project and the Maine State Prison Fire Department.

MAINTENANCE

Our Maintenance Department as well as several of our vocational training programs and teachers continues to work diligently with the Lincoln Center for the Arts in Rockland as an on-going project to help them attain their goal of total restoration and upgrades to provide services through the best possible art center available. This project will continue through several weeks and possibly months to finalize the results.

SECURITY

This continues to be one of the hardest jobs in Corrections. Our hats go off to all of our security personnel who continue to be diligent in their efforts and direct in their approaches in order to maintain the functioning of this facility.

VOCATIONAL

The cars behind bars project is going very well. A very big and special thanks to Bruce Farnsworth for his donation of a true and correct rebuilt BOSS 302 engine for our BOSS 302 Mustang project.

This worthwhile project is gaining publicity and excellent reviews. The most recent review resulted from a visit from two professional car restorers. They have given us an excellent rating as restorers saying the work done is among the best in the State of Maine.

Special thanks to Brad Davis, our Auto Body teacher, for his professional and positive experience as well as direction regarding this huge project. Thanks Brad, you are doing a great job and keep up the good work. We appreciate your efforts.

In Loving Memory of Pascal Eugene Poe III

This comes as sad news to everyone who knew Pascal. Pascal died of cancer on April 19, 2003 at the home that he designed and built in Vermont's Northern Kingdom.

Pascal attended Amherst College, Colombia University, and the University of Hartford, where he received his Bachelor's degree. He earned his Master's degree in English Literature from the University of Connecticut. He taught at the University of Connecticut until moving to Vermont in the early 70's.

Pascal was a homebuilder in Vermont and also in Maine after he moved here in 1980. In 1981, Pascal started his career with the MDOC when he took a position as Librarian at the MSP and later became the Director of Education at the Bolduc Correctional Facility, a position he held until retiring in 2001.

Pascal was a person of wisdom, integrity, compassion, and honor. He shared these gifts freely with prisoners and colleagues alike. People who knew him, even casually, have commented on the goodness of the man, and on the depth of the loss that comes with his death. He will be very much missed and remembered. Pascal, may you rest in peace.



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

MAINE CORRECTIONAL CENTER

MCC PERSONNEL DEPT. REPORT

By: Brad Fogg

NEW HIRES:

Chief of Prison Security: The Maine Correctional Center welcomes **Gary LaPlante** as our new Chief, Prison Security. Gary has worked for the Department for 14 years serving as an Officer, Sergeant, Investigator and Captain. Gary has his Associate of Science Degree and is pursuing his Bachelor's degree. He has completed several Maine Criminal Justice Academy certificate courses and has attended the Attorney General's Civil Rights Training Course. Gary has been a member of the Maine State Prison's Tactical Unit and a member of its Security Threat Intelligence Gathering Unit. Gary has heard good things about MCC and has been anxious to make the change. **Welcome aboard Gary!**

PROMOTIONS:

Captain: We are also pleased to announce the promotion of Sergeant **Shawn Welch** to the position of Correctional Captain. Shawn has been employed by the Maine Correctional Center since 1990. He has served as a correctional officer, sergeant and acting capacity Captain. He is Assistant Commander of MCC's Tactical Team and is a certified self-defense instructor. **Congratulations Shawn!**

Jeffrey D. Merrill II promoted to Manager of Correctional Operations for Security on January 6, 2003. Jeff started his career as a correctional officer at MCC. He has also served as a Correctional Sergeant, Classification Officer, and Director at CMPRC. Prior to his appointment at CMPRC, Jeff served as the Director of the Volunteers of America Work Release Program.

Cheryl Rackliff promoted from Correctional Officer to Assistant Classification Officer on Jan 6, 2003. Prior to her promotion Cheryl had worked as a corrections officer at MCC and in the County jail system.

Good Luck to both!

ACTING CAPACITY:

Thanks are extended to **John "Jack" McGloin**, **Stephen Burns** and **Stephen Lacourse** for their filling our supervisory needs as Acting Capacity Sergeants. Kudos to Sgt **Russell Kelley** for his recent and current service as Acting Capacity Captain.

MCC also wishes to recognize Officer **Sarah Brown** for her efforts in her acting capacity as a Correctional Trades Shop Supervisor. Good Job!

Our sincere appreciation goes out to all the above mentioned staff!

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS DURING 2003:

25 years:	Russ Kelley	Bill Harmon
	John Winant	
20 years:	George Hanscom	Jack Redmond
15 years:	Ken Fearon	Richard Roy
	Al Greenhaulgh	Randy Nickerson
	Mike Carrier	Patricia Rogers
	Beverly Jensen	Scott MacDonald
10 years:	Jo Russ-Kelley	Lester Baker

KUDOS GO TO: MCC's Correctional Trades Instructors - The Maine Correctional Center has nothing but praise for its Correctional Trade Instructors. In the last few months they have been active in renovating space, that was never intended to be, for offices for the Assistant Classification Officers and Manager of Correctional Operations. Their crews have knocked out walls, installed windows, laid carpet; sheet rocked, painted and moved furniture. Their efforts have allowed MCC to make usable space at the Department's oldest facility.

KUDOS ALSO GO TO Our Staff - The Maine Correctional Center extends its thanks and admiration to its correctional officer staff. The officers, sergeants and captains have worked long hours in filling openings created by family medical leaves, leaves of absences, military leaves, resignations and promotions. We are pleased at the efforts they have made in maintaining the security and good order of the facility.

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In addition, the caseworkers, correctional care and treatment workers, classification staff, mental health staff, maintenance crew, laundry supervisors, food service and administrative staff have done a wonderful job in providing the necessary support services to keep the Maine Correctional Center functioning in an efficient and safe manner.

They continue to demonstrate their growing professionalism by the performance of their duties and in dealing with the 316 new admissions we have received through April 10, 2003.



MCC - Unit II Happenings

By Unit Manager Don Jacobson

This Minimum Security unit is responsible for job assignments for MCC's outside work crews & the Industries. This Unit has an AA program and a HIP program available and a lot of our prisoners transfer to PreRelease at CMPRU, BCF, DCF and CCF. We hold 3 to 4 prisoners in every room.

This Unit also has the Infirmary for the DOC, for all custody levels of prisoners that need 24 hour nursing care. The infirmary holds a maximum of 11 prisoners.

The new Medical Unit moved into Dorm 4, which is part of Unit II, on March 1, 2003. The work crews did the remodeling.

Staffing for Unit II is as follows: Sergeants: **Jeff Bullingham, Hayden Boullie**; Caseworker: **Will Blanchard**; Correctional Care/Treatment Worker: **Stan Haskell**; Mental Health: **Peter Fuller**; Unit Clerk: **Bobbi-Jo Simard** and CO's: **Richard Roy, Al Geenhalgh, Dan McLeod, John Shaw, Dennis Winslow, Frank Dube, Jeffery, Merry, Eric Thomsen, Norma Goddard, Benjamin Beal, Robert Dudley, Benjamin Sanborn, George Daisey, Scott Holmes, Steve Giampartruzi.**

STEEL MAGNOLIAS AT MCC

Lynn Tijssen - Psychiatric Social Worker

The residents at the Maine Correctional Women's Center recently enacted a dynamic version of the play *Steel Magnolias*, written by Robert Harling. The spirit of camaraderie that developed in the Women's Center impressed residents, volunteers, and staff. The cast and crew worked hard and appreciated the faith and support given to them by staff and fellow residents. The two-hour drama was directed by a resident and each actress performed as if she had been on stage for years.

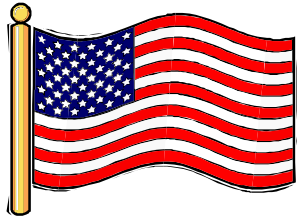
The play was about six women with very real issues, including a mother-daughter relationship, life, death, and interpersonal relationships involving uniquely different personalities. Working on the play initiated participants to tap into hidden or unknown skills and emotions. The resident director stated, "The production enabled us to look beyond ourselves and get in touch with areas within us that we didn't even know existed, or forgot that existed."

During the process of rehearsals, the cast members, director, and backstage assistants learned to set goals, problem solve, and express feelings appropriately. They also worked on conflict-resolution, interpersonal skills, and relationships. The opportunity to practice these life skills will help the participants as they prepare to return to their families and the community.

The performance was heartwarming and the moments of laughter brought residents closer. The Mission Statement of the Women's Center was always in the forefront -- to empower women to learn, to grow, and to heighten each person's self-esteem. Presenting the play *Steel Magnolias* was a positive and creative method to achieve these goals.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

CHARLESTON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY & MOUNTAIN VIEW YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER



SUPPORT FOR OUR TROUPS

By Liz Brugger, Receptionist

We at Mountain View Youth Development Center and Charleston Correctional Facility would like to acknowledge our brave soldiers that were called to war, JPW **Eric Campbell** and JPW **Joe Baker**. They are assigned to the Maine Air National Guard; Eric is in the 112th Medical Company, and Joe, the 101st Civil Engineering Squad. We are so proud of you both! Also, to JPW **Lisa Royal** whose son, **Ryan**, is serving in the 101st Airborne Division in Baghdad, you must be beaming with pride! See Lisa "no news is good news". The men and women of our United States military deserve our respect and gratitude for defending our great nation. *God Bless America!*

Two large boxes were shipped to Eric Campbell and Ryan Royal (Joe just recently left), and we are anxiously awaiting their arrival, and **Sheena Lundin** developed an opportunity for our employees to contribute to the support of our troops.

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By Sheena Lundin
Chief of Volunteer Services

It has come to my attention that some of our employees and/or their family members have been deployed to service our country. As a show of support, we thought it would be nice to send our troops care packages.

A soldier from Milo, who is stationed in Kuwait, sent the list of items (to the right) that our service men and women can use while overseas. I will set up boxes at MVYDC and at CCF. MVYDC's will be

placed in each unit, in the front lobby, and in the administration lobby. CCF's will be place in the administration lobby. The boxes will have the list of items attached. Feel free to add a card or note of support. This is a simple way to send these young men and women our support and prayers during this very difficult time. Please do not hesitate to call with your questions and or suggestions 285-0774.

Thank you all,

General

Envelopes	Pens
Stationary	Search wordbooks
Batteries	Crossword Puzzles
Playing Cards	Travel games
as well as paid 600-minute phone cards	

Food

Hot cocoa	Instant coffee
Sweetened Kool-Aid	Cup of soup
Instant oatmeal	Gum and mints
Beef Jerky	Slim Jims
Packages of popcorn	Trail Mix
Powdered drinks (Gatorade most popular)	
Hard Candy Sorry <u>no chocolates</u> they melt.	
Sealed snack, e.g. Crackers, Little Debbie's	

Hygiene

Baby wipes and zip lock bags.
These can be carried in the servicemen's backpack

Trial sized

Toothpaste	Deodorant
Shampoo	Conditioner
Body Wash	Hand Sanitizer
Foot Powder	Chap stick
Listerine Pocket Packs	Toothbrushes
Disposable Razors	Eye Drops
Skintastic (anything to ward off sand fleas)	
Sun Screen (No aerosols.)	

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DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

SUPPORT FOR FAMILY

Edwina Strout, JPW. was given an overwhelming surprise at briefing on Monday, April 17, 2003. Her husband **David** was scheduled for surgery for a kidney transplant on Tuesday the 14th at Portland Eastern Maine Medical Center. I would like to include two articles pertaining to this, one from **Lori Call** who arranged everything, and the other from **Sheena Lundin**, our Chief of Volunteers, who is Edwina's mom.

Helping One Another

By Lori L. Call, JPW

A thank you to all employees at Mountain View Youth Development Center and Charleston Correctional Facility for all of your generous contributions made to a fellow JPW **Edwina Strout**. Edwina's husband **David** underwent a kidney transplant, which was donated by a family member on April 15, 2003. A group of us decided that we needed to help out Edwina's family in any way we could. The scheduling of the surgery came upon us rather quickly; we had one week to gather monetary donations. We were able to keep this a secret from Edwina and gave her our gift of support to her & her family. In total, we raised just over \$800 in cash, received 1200 minutes in calling card time, and also had 3 nights paid for in the hotel she would be staying at! Edwina came into work the day before the surgery not expecting anything out of the ordinary and was handed a card & envelope from all of us. "*Overwhelmed*" would be the best way to describe my dear friend. A few other employees, **Tom Irvine**, **Larry Hooper** and **John Simmons**, with generosity in mind thought of an idea where we all could donate two hours each of vacation time, to make sure JPW Strout had enough sick time to take care of her family, so far we have accrued approximately four weeks of time!

I must say that this was one of the easiest tasks I have ever completed. We have a great crew of employees up here in Charleston!! I am thankful for such a good friend in Edwina and also thankful knowing that we could pull together as a team and help each other out.

I am happy to report that today 04/18/03, David is doing great; of course he has a long recovery road ahead of him, but life is looking great for our friends Edwina & David Strout & family.

Thank You

By Sheena Lundin, Chief of Volunteers

I know a simple thank you does not express how I feel about you all. At this time of my life I have been fortunate enough to have found a place to work that not only do I love my work but I have the pleasure of being around such caring people. I have worked for many years in social services and I have never experienced such giving by a group of people such as you all. I know Edwina has had many tears today, she has been so overwhelmed with emotions. I know your thoughts and prayers are with **David**, **Edwina** and my wonderful wee grandson **Devon**. Thank you all so very much and God Bless you.



"MY FAIR LADY" FIELD TRIP

By Michael Cushman, Music Teacher

"I told you, you shouldn't have gone to a French designer. You should've gone to an English store, where at least you know everyone's on our side."

These words penned nearly 50 years ago by Lerner and Lowe for the musical, *My Fair Lady*, were based on George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*. Students from Mountain View Youth Development Center traveled to the Grand Theater in Ellsworth for a performance of this timely musical on Sunday, April 6th. Afterward, students were treated to a brief tour of the stage and technical area by Director **Ken Stack**, who offered students an inside look at how the show was staged.

My Fair Lady is the rags-to-riches story of Eliza Doolittle, a common flower girl in London, and a bet between Professor Higgins and Colonel Pickering (linguists who study accents and record

over

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

them using Bell's Visible Speech). The challenge was to make a duchess out of her in every way. Upon learning of the arrangement, Eliza's father sells her to the men for £5—he refuses £10 because, "That wouldn't be moral."

This field trip allowed students to see their music teacher perform on keyboard and harp in a pit orchestra. They also saw volunteer brass and string instructor, **Amanda Cushman** perform. On the return trip, students were discussing how they could get involved in such a production in the future. One student resolved he would become part of such a production, "Even if I can't sing."

FAREWELL TO MR. MAGOO

By Kevin Mayo, JPW; K-9 Team

Mr. Magoo, born 11-24-93, came to us in 1995. **Scott Estes** of the K-9 Team meet his owners in Yarmouth and brought him to Charleston Correctional Facility. Magoo was a very well mannered hound. As Scott and the other team members began to train Magoo, he began to catch on to what his job was very quickly. Magoo turned out to be a very valuable asset to his handler, Scott, and the Department of Corrections. During his career as a tracking hound he had many successes, to include assisting the Piscataquis County Sheriff's Department in finding two lost boys who had been riding bikes and were tragically found deceased in the Piscataquis River near Milo. Magoo trailed three escaped prisoners over ten miles at night until the scent was lost. It was later found that they had stolen a vehicle a short distance away from there. He also assisted Penobscot County in finding a lost woman in Corinna, ultimately saving her life. He was a truly great tracker.

Mr. Magoo passed away 3-1-2003. He is greatly missed by his handler, Scott Estes, and all of the CCF K-9 team. *Many more Happy trails to you Mr. Magoo.*

PERSONNEL

ANNIVERSARIES:

CCF	Month/Day	Years
Jim Pride	March 5th	30
Ray Mountain	March 1st	21
Tom Sands	March 1st	21
Amasa Skip Salley	March 5th	19
Robin Pinkham	April 27th	21
Dennis O'Bar	April 13th	13

MVYDC	Month/Day	Years
David Richards	March 25th	20
Russell Ames	March 6th	13
Kevin Mayo	March 8th	13
Carol Conner	April 11th	20
Tim Nichols	April 9th	15
Sam Bradeen	April 21st	11

PROMOTIONS:

Peter Vicaire, MVYDC, from JPS to JFOS

ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS

Eric Campbell, JPW and **Joseph Baker**, JPW

CONGRATULATIONS:

To JPW **Ron Valli** and **Amanda Hayden** on the birth of their first child born February 26, 2003 @ 5:59 am, 7 lbs 4 oz, 18 inches. Welcome **Caleb Joseph Valli**.

Also to **Kevin** and **Lynn Lamb** who is the **Day One Coordinator** for Mountain View Youth Development Center on the birth of their second child **Noah**.

We also want to welcome aboard our new "**Correctional Medical Services**" professionals, joining us as of April 1st. CMS has completed training at MVYDC this week, and we would like to express our thanks and congratulations for such a smooth transition.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

DOWNEAST CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Downeast is in the pre-summer mode, as the streets are being swept and the screens are installed at the facility. Work crews are augmenting area towns with summer preparations too, as **CTI's Toby Sawtelle** and **JJ Tibbetts** and **CMM Paul Johnson's** crews have been keeping busy with these projects. **CMM Jeff Mason's** Crew has been busy during the winter, fabricating floating docks for the Town of Pembroke.



Floating docks waiting for planking to be installed before shipment to Baxter State Park.

We have some new faces here at Downeast. **Eugene Fletcher** and **Everett Foster**, both from Columbia Falls, have joined us as Correctional Officers. Gene Fletcher is also a Navy Reservist. And a de jevue, **Olivia Spencer** has rejoined us as our Staff Accountant after 2½ years of retirement. *A big welcome back!*

In the Education Department under the guidance of Teacher **Jim Dumond**, DCF has 4 Prisoners in a college program, one is finishing his 3rd year. Six Prisoners are in the G.E.D. program with volunteer tutoring from **Frances Skillin**, and seven are in the High School Diploma program through the Machias Adult Education Program under the assistance of Machias Adult Education Staff member, **Barbara Lapham**.

The Prison Pup program recently had two dogs graduate from NEADS. One dog was received from Golden Moments, leaving us with a total of three dogs in training at this time.

The DCF Welding Shop under the guidance of **VTI Craig Smith** has been very busy during the winter. They have refurbished three fire trucks for the Forestry Department, a tank truck for the town of Robbinston, they made targets for the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency and Bar-B-Q grills for Moose Point State Park.



ABOVE: Another fire truck nears completion by the DCF Welding Shop. Forestry supplied the cab and chassis, the rest was fabricated.

BELOW: A surplus M-35 is brought into the facility. Materials are provided by the agency wanting a fire truck and once assembled, the truck is taken to a commercial body shop for painting, then returned to DCF for final retrofitting. This particular M-35 belongs to the Harrington Volunteer Fire Department.



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Region 1

A new face on board



Marc Montminy joined our staff in March to assume supervision of the Portland caseload formerly supervised by **Dave Edwards**. Marc is no stranger to law enforcement, having come to us from the rank and file of the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department where he served as a police, fire and EMS dispatcher, as well as a bailiff and patrol deputy. Prior to that he was employed as a corrections officer at the Cumberland County Jail. Marc's natural aptitude for this field of endeavor coupled with a wry sense of humor makes him a real asset to our region. Welcome aboard, Marc.

Other staff changes include **Dave Edwards** moving from a Portland caseload to the full-time SOS position. And this month we had to temporarily say goodbye to PPO **Laura Landry** as she takes leave of us to give birth to the newest addition to their family in May.

A word of thanks

"I just want to express by heartfelt thanks to all of you who donated vacation time to me during the long and tough ordeal of my Dad's death. The time was both stressful and very sad for me but the burden was made a bit lighter with your gifts of time. I also want to thank all the folks who showed tremendous support by their caring words, e-mails and prayers.

Sometimes a few words, a joke or even just knowing that you have people who care and can call on if one needs to is very comforting. As the saying goes, a friend in need is a friend indeed and you folks certainly proved that to me. From the bottom of my heart-THANK YOU." **Sue Wiechman**



In loving memory of



*Our deepest sympathies are going out to PPO **Corinne Zipps** and her brother **Tom** on the loss of their beloved mom, **Pauline**, whose life on earth came to a close on Wednesday, April 16th.*

Pauline will be sadly missed by all who knew her and lovingly remembered for her honesty, grace and unfailing sense of humor even in times of great trials and tribulations.

To Corinne and all of her extended family go our sincere condolences. May the memories of your happy yesterdays give you comfort through your many tomorrows.

ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Region 3

I was searching for something other than the usual "spring is coming" article to pass on. You see, there really isn't anything uniquely new to Region III, that I know of, and everything seems to be "maintaining". Then I was shown an article in the Village Soup, Rockland section. This article is about **John Lorenzen** and the efforts of the Probation Officers in the Thomaston office to keep up with their caseloads. Entitled "Breaking The Cycle Of Breaking The Law", and written by **Holly S. Anderson**, a reporter for the Village Soup, I found it to well worth reading and passing on to all of our DOC Talk readers.

If you live on the Central Coast area or are interested in news from that region, the Village Soup is an extremely complete on-line news publication that can be located at <http://villagesoup.com>. When you get to their home site you can then select from three separate editions; Rockland, Camden, or Belfast.

Over

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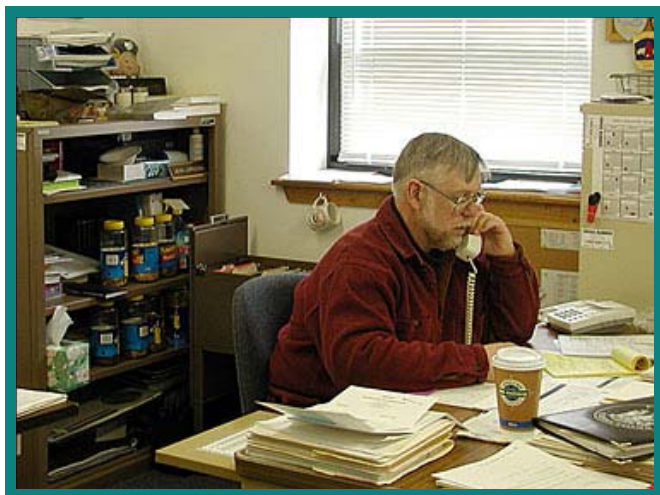
ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS *Region 3 continued*

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF BREAKING THE LAW

By Holly S. Anderson

reprinted with permission from VillageSoup, Midcoast
Maine's Community Internet Hub *Rockland*(March 17, 2003):

***John Lorenzen knows what it's
like to have a vice.***



Busy at work, John Lorenzen's phone rings constantly in his office on Route 1 in Thomaston

Amid the folders and three-ring binders that neatly clutter his Thomaston office are jars of Planter's Peanuts, always within easy reach.

Peanuts, you see, are Lorenzen's habit, a relatively harmless one at that. As a Probation and Parole Officer for the Maine Department of Corrections, many of his clients have far more destructive vices – mostly drugs and alcohol -- that usually lead to trouble with the law.

"You can't truly deal with their other problems until you get rid of the substance abuse," Lorenzen said. "I'm the little person on their shoulder telling them to keep clean, who does battle with the other little person on their shoulder," he said.

Lorenzen and colleague **Anthony Prest** are responsible for 450 lawbreakers each month, which hardly leaves time to sit around eating salty legumes.

But it's often a losing battle. Arrests, jail time, admonishments from a judge and stringent conditions of release have little effect on substance abusers. Their journey to sobriety needs a more personal imperative, which may never kick in at all.

In the meantime, local jails fill with recidivists as Lorenzen and Prest head out to find even more.

On a typical, random night of home visits, the probation and parole squad is joined by local police officers.

Armed with a list of names, the group visits people they suspect are violating their release conditions.

The officers knock on doors and try to make sure someone doesn't slip out a window, something that can and does happen.

"We know these people aren't abiding by the conditions and we want to instill in them that they need to abide because someone might show up at their door," Lorenzen said.

A revolving door

The capacity at local jails is indicative of Lorenzen's workload. On a recent day last week, Knox County Jail was housing 55 inmates. Twenty-nine, more than half, were being held for either pre-sentence, pretrial or probation violations.

Another six inmates were on probation hold, awaiting the outcome of a violation hearing, according to **Major Richard Robbins**.

On that very same day, Waldo County Jail in Belfast had 33 inmates. Waldo County **Sheriff Scott Story** said six had violated bail and another 10 were either on probation hold or had their probation revoked.

Dealing with probation and bail violators can be a source of frustration for authorities since many of the offenses involve drugs and alcohol.

Rockland **Detective Sgt. Jim Pease** realizes that home visits are part of his job, but he feels the drug conditions imposed on probationers have no teeth.

Over

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 3 continued

"Often times, people do violent crimes when they are on drugs, trying to get drugs or retaliating over drugs and when drugs are a part of the crime," Pease said. "I don't know why we keep letting them back out after they violate one or two more times."

Pease said a person who can't abide by the rules doesn't deserve to be let out.

"They are let back out and haven't addressed their drug problems so it makes sense they will go back and do crimes again," Pease said. "It's a never-ending cycle."

Hitting bottom

Lorenzen sees a direct correlation between drug use and other criminal activity. He said people can't deal with other problems they have when they are in the substance abuse "haze."

"Everyone will see the problem and change when they hit bottom," he said. "But I have learned that rock bottom is different for everybody."

For example, Lorenzen said some people who get picked up for operating under the influence are so embarrassed and ashamed, that by the time they pay their fine, go through court-ordered counseling and suffer from the loss of their license for a period of time, they never want to drink again, let alone drink and drive.

For others, he said, their bottom is to drink until they kill themselves.

He makes recommendations and referrals of clients to substance abuse counseling programs, anger management counseling and batterer's prevention programs, among other services. In fact, Lorenzen said he meets with local substance abuse counselors on a weekly basis to see how his clients are doing and where they might need additional support.

Lorenzen works with Alternate Choices, a Rockland-based substance abuse counseling agency, on a weekly, if not daily basis.

While the agency helps tailor individual treatment plans, resources limit the effectiveness for some individuals.

"Let's face it, how much can we get done in 12 weeks for a person who has been abusing for 20 years?" said **David McFarland**, the agency's administrator. "If a person relapses into addiction, their relapse into criminal activity is 100 percent."

McFarland has been providing substance abuse services for 20 years, 15 of them in Rockland.

He senses that alcoholism and drug addiction are viewed as a moral rather than a medical issue, as evidenced by the focus on crime and punishment versus crime, punishment and counseling, or treatment.

"Alcoholism and drug addiction is a disease and until the addiction is addressed, people will do things and break the law while they are under the influence," McFarland said.

McFarland agrees with Lorenzen that it's imperative to stop the cause of the behavior, but he said the next step is to root around for the underlying problem causing the desire to drink and do drugs.

An alternative approach

Lorenzen also tries to reach people through creative and human means by talking, cajoling and reading with them to help them gain skills necessary to make good life choices.

To teach those skills, Lorenzen hosts "Stories for Life," a program of the Maine Humanities Council and the Maine Department of Corrections.

After reading a series of short stories, probationers spend at least five group sessions discussing the same types of issues American authors Raymond Carver and Annie Proulx have written about.

Lorenzen said the program gives probationers an opportunity to explore situations similar to those in their own lives, thinking about them individually and then discussing the stories together.

Over

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS *Region 3 continued*

"Sometimes they get started talking about a story and there's no stopping them," Lorenzen said. "And these are people who don't necessarily read or communicate very well at the beginning and by the end, they are thinking more clearly and communicating more clearly, too."

Breaking the cycle means coming at the person from all sides -- from punishment and making them see the destructiveness of their behavior to helping them deal with their substance abuse issues.

Lorenzen said that probation is a tough thing for some people who don't want to change. But for others, probation gives them the time they need to "get over the hump."

Changing behavior, Lorenzen said, is more effective in the long run than controlling behavior.

But the moving target is if, and when, a person wants to change their behavior.

The thing about probation and substance abuse cases, Lorenzen said, is to get the probationer away from family and friends who enable or encourage the person to lapse. Probation is a way of forcing them to stay away from these contacts and to change their scenery, and that much change is often a hard sell.

But Lorenzen does have success cases.

For all the probationers who test positive for drugs in a year, he said many, if not half, test negative.

"Some pick themselves up and do real well and they'll come back later and say 'Thanks', but I didn't do anything," Lorenzen said. "They have to make that choice to change and they have to do all the work, I'm just the guy watching over them and cheering them on."

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Based in Rockland, Holly S. Anderson can be reached at 594-5351 or by email at holly@VillageSoup.com.

"VOICE OF MAINE"

On another public media note, three of our staff were on the "Voice of Maine" radio the other day. It was at 8 AM on March 18th. RCA **Dan Ouellette**, and PPO's **Jeff Furlong** and **Bud Hall** were guests of the "Maine In The Morning" show. The topic was a general discussion of what Probation is and what we, as an agency, do in the community. Probably the most noticeable thing we learned through this experience is just how fast an hour goes and how little information you can squeeze in. The show went well, received much positive comment, and we're planning on doing it again. Next time we hope to address some of the special programs Probation has.

"Voice Of Maine" can be heard at 107.9 in the Augusta area and 96.7 on the central coast area.

ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS *Region 4*

When I heard that **DOC Talk** needed news FAST, I e-mailed all of my co-workers, asking them if they had any "news". I will quote them...our **Dave Cyr**, from Caribou wrote, "well, it's still winter in Aroostook County...but then, that's not really news." Our **Fran Cyr**, also from Caribou, wrote, "No news is good news." And of course, last, but never least, our **Greg Locsin**, Caribou(?), shared, "We got an oil change on the Lumina, the sun is shining (now that IS news) and we're almost out of LSIs." Is it me, or is there a common thread?

We really do have news to share...did we tell you that **Dan Dickson** joined us from Region I?? He says he loves Dover and is planning on buying property and settin a spell....! We all agree that Dan is a great addition to our region. Welcome Dan!

-over-

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 4 continued

Speaking of additions, **Don Muth** joined us recently after he decided to leave juvenile services. Don was a JCW down in Belfast. Their loss is certainly our gain. Not only is he our new SCC Officer here in Bangor, but he is also carrying a caseload of area probationers. Don is also a pilot and does much of his flying down in the Belfast area. Welcome to you too Don!

(Don, I know that you are suspecting that I would take this opportunity to tell everyone your new nickname ... now, would I do that to you Skip? Oops...)

Our **Leo Collins** was away from his job for about 10 days due to elbow surgery. He has returned today and appears to be on the mend! Welcome back Leo!

Our **Julie Jacobs**, a part time clerk here in the Bangor office has an 8 year old son **Michael**, and she shares that he has just joined the Black Belt Club of Taekwondo in the Karate for Kids program. He is currently a blue belt. Both Julie, and his father **Tom** are awfully proud of their young son. Atta boy, Michael!!

And speaking of us ALL being proud, our **Laurie Scott's**, (Bangor Office), only son **Corey**, is serving overseas in the United States Army. He is **SSgt. Corey P. Scott** with the 112th Medical Co. Air Ambulance Unit based in Bangor. Corey's unit was mobilized in January of this year and traveled to Fort Drum, New York, to await deployment orders. On March 28th, they received their orders and were deployed to Kuwait to begin their objectives in Operating Iraqi Freedom. Along with Laurie, his dad **Roger**, his wife **Peggy**, and his two daughters **Elizabeth**, age 2 and **Naomi**, age 7 months, we couldn't be prouder to know someone who has bravely placed himself in harm's way for the people of the United States, and the people of Iraq, in the name of freedom. No words could express our gratitude Corey.

And our last bit of news, **Charlie O'Roak** made it to another birthday..with all of our help, I might add!

I don't know what season this DOC Talk will be coming out...I would like to wish you all happy something..." Happy Shoveling"(oh NO!!)....."Happy Mudding"..." Happy Black Flies"...hopefully:...**"HAPPY SUMMER!"**

JUVENILE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 1

I am actually writing this on my birthday in April and I would swear it was the middle of February. I think Maine has now become two seasons, summer and winter. I am sure everyone is as tired of this weather as we all are in Region One.

We have had a fairly uneventful month. The office seems very quiet without **Dave Eldridge** roaming from office to office and chatting with everyone. We hear he is enjoying himself in Florida in the warm weather, assisting his wife with her Bed and Breakfast.

We are still very short staffed and with **Elizabeth Buxton** retiring soon, it should get even worse. **Dan** is presently doing his own job in addition to filling the position formerly held by **Dave Eldridge** and is extremely busy.

Andrew Moore has returned for a vacation to Florida again to escape the cold Maine weather and likely will try to catch a Red Sox game somewhere along the way. He and **Greg Masalsky** both went to spring training in Florida, however, not for the same teams. Greg is a total Yankee's fan and Andy is such a Red Sox fan.



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

JUVENILE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS *Region 1 continued*

John Nevers has offered all our staff tickets to see some Sea Dogs game together this spring and summer, thanks to his brother. We went as a group last year and had such a nice time. John and his family are driving across country this spring and **Tina Vermiglio** will be headed for Italy for a week or two. We wish them a great vacation.

Jay Pennell has struck again. **Maura Douglass** came into her office on Monday to find it filled with 350 balloons. He and **Stephanie Libby** spent much of Sunday blowing them up, does anyone else think these two need to get a life?

I hope we will have a new appointment to announce next time. *THINK SPRING.*

JUVENILE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS *Region 2*

RETIRING

After 35+ years of service to the Department of Corrections, **Lee Carter** has retired. A retirement party was held, in his honor, on the evening of April 18. **Linda Maher**, **Pauline Flagg** a Probation Officer with Region 2 Adult Services, and **Lee's** wife, **Pauline Carter** worked very hard to pull off what was an awesome retirement party. Speakers/Roasters included **Juvenile Associate Commission Barry Stoodley**, Lee's supervisor **Cindy Brann**, and **Deputy Superintendent Bob Lancaster** of Long Creek Youth Development Center, among others. A slide show, created by **Linda Maher**, was presented. It included pictures gathered from over the years of Lee's family and work.

Congratulations and best wishes Lee.



MTO TRAINING

Julio Martinez and **Rick Meagher** have been training to be Motivational Training Officers. They plan to teach the department's employees how to be a motivational speaker. **Julio** expressed his optimism with the effects he believes will be the result of this training. He has used it in interviewing some of the juveniles on his caseload and has found it to be quite useful.

ANNIVERSARIES

Susan Gagnon and husband, **Pat Gagnon**, and **Sue Smith** and husband, **Brian Smith**, will celebrate their anniversaries in May and June, respectively. Both are planning get-aways. **Susan** and **Pat** will be spending quality time at the ocean, and **Sue** and **Brian** will be enjoying both the exciting nightlife and quiet serenity of the surrounding woodland. Both sound very romantic and relaxing. Hope you enjoy.

WHERE AM I TODAY?

Chris Dillman, our Rumford sub-office JCCO, might ask himself that from day to day. **Chris** has been covering his Rumford caseload as well as the caseload that **Lee Carter** had. He is covering all of Oxford County pending a replacement for the vacancy position created as a result of **Lee Carter's** retirement. **Chris** plans to take over the South Paris caseload, formerly **Lee Carter's**. The person hired for the vacancy will therefore be handling the Rumford caseload. **Cindy Brann**, **Stephanie Libby**, and **Susan Gagnon** are in the process of interviewing for the current vacancy.



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

JUVENILE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Region 4

Now that I have made it through this past Winter, I am very happy to be watching my daffodils and crocus pop up through the earth. Springtime is always a nice season for me as the snow is gone, the trees are budding and the whole world is full of new colors. Forty or so robins arrived in my backyard, searching for the worms that have been buried under the snow all year.



By the time this article is in your hands, my husband **Dick** and I will have vacationed in Aruba. For me, Aruba is paradise on earth. For us folks who like long white sandy beaches, aqua marine water, tropical breezes, snorkeling, and boating, this is a true vacation. The toughest decision I have to make all day is where to dine out in the evening. I could probably go on and on, painting great pictures of Aruba, but I should probably get to the business at hand.

All of us in Region IV continue to send our thoughts and prayers to **Bill Francis**, who will be leaving for Iraq shortly, and by the time you are reading this article, will be there. **Julie Leavitt**, **Elaine Sosebee** and **Gary Sanfacon**, have very kindly picked up Bill's caseload, while he is

away. May you come home safely Bill, and soon.

A "good thing" has happened in the Bangor office. We now have access to tele-conferencing. That will save some wear and tear on our cars, as well as saving travel time. Although, I must say, the ride, from Bangor to MVYDC is a tranquil and scenic ride, past acres of farmland, pastures of cows and horses, ending with the beautiful view of the mountains from Charleston.

On another note, **Tom Pailes** continues to keep himself in the real estate market. Tom and his wife **Mary** are in the process of purchasing a new home in Florida. As mentioned in a former DOC TALK, Tom and Mary have new homes, about every other year. We got a little nervous when we heard about this home in Florida. Tom assures us, he has no immediate plans to move in the near future. We were relieved to hear that as there have been many changes, with personal.

Sherri Root's husband, **Mark**, works in the Coast Guard and has been transferred to Oregon. We (21 of us) took Sherri and Mark to the Olive Garden and gave them a send off that was both fun and sad. **Dave Barrett's** wife, **Nancy**, put together the cutest travel bag for Sherri's daughter **Morgan**, full of things do to while riding in a car, decorated with flowers. We were all impressed with Nancy's creative talent. Sherri has been such an asset to Reg. IV. She will definitely be missed. But, we do wish her well and asked her to promise to stay in touch. Until a new person is hired, **Renna Hegg** will be covering Sherri's caseload.

So, with Bill gone, and Sherri's leaving, we were hoping that would be the end of the personal change, but it was not. Due to medical reasons, **Bob Boober** is no longer working for DOC. Lots of changes that have affected us all. But, as always, we rally, and pull together, using our creative energies, to handle the unfilled vacancies.

In these very challenging and trying times, I try and see the beauty that is still around us, the good things that happen each day. Each day, working with our kids, I try and remember what Ralph Waldo Emerson said: "To laugh often and much, to appreciate beauty, to see the best in others, to leave the world a bit better, to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived, this is to have succeeded."

May you all have a warm and peaceful Spring.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

In Recognition of **NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL EMPLOYEES WEEK**

May 4 – May 9, 2003

S. RES. 24

WHEREAS the operation of correctional facilities represents a crucial component of the criminal justice system of the United States;

WHEREAS correctional personnel play a vital role in protecting the rights of the public to be safeguarded from criminal activity;

WHEREAS correctional personnel are responsible for the care, custody, and dignity of the human beings charged to their care; and

WHEREAS correctional personnel work under demanding circumstances and face danger in their daily work lives:

Now, therefore, be it Resolved,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK.

That the Senate—

- (1) designates the week beginning May 4, 2003, as “National Correctional Officers and Employees Week”; and
- (2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Dear Correctional Employee,

The week beginning May 4, 2003 has been designated as National Correctional Employees Week. This week is an opportunity to recognize the vital role performed by correctional employees in protecting the rights of the public to be safeguarded from criminal activity. Correctional employees are responsible for the custody, supervision and dignity of those human beings charged to their care; perform these responsibilities under demanding circumstances; and face danger in their daily lives. I would like to take this opportunity to honor the work that you do for the citizens of the State of Maine.

We are fortunate in Maine to experience one of the lowest crime rates and the lowest level incarceration rates in the Nation. However, this has not resulted in fewer challenges for correctional employees. In 2002, Maine had one of the fastest growing increases in the state prisoner population and in the number of probationers. These increased numbers have placed enormous demands on each and every one of you. You have met this challenge with professionalism and competence.

The progress that has been made in our state correctional system is exemplary. New juvenile correctional facilities and improved programming for youth offenders will begin to result in reduced recidivism, and more importantly, positive and successful futures for these young people. Correctional employees continue to support treatment and educational programs that demonstrate positive results and also give back to the community through restitution, community service, and public works projects. There is much in corrections to recognize.

For your many and ongoing efforts, I would like to thank you.

Sincerely, John Elias Baldacci
Governor